

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Richard B. Toupence et al.	
Int'l Appl'n. No:	PCT/US03/24280	Case No.: 21175YP
Int'l Filing Date:	1 August 2003	
Serial No.:	To Be Assigned	
Filed:	January 21, 2005	
For:	SUBSTITUTED FURO[2,3- $\beta$ ]PYRIDINE DERIVATIVES	

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

The above identified case is a PCT application entering the US National Phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 and Article 39(1)(a) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the following amendments prior to prosecution of the subject application. Any additional fees associated with this Amendment may be charged to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including a replacement Abstract page is attached following page 40 of this paper. It is numbered as page 208.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 40 of this paper.

**EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE**DATE OF DEPOSIT January 21, 2005EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV421342275US

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS  
BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL  
SERVICE AS EXPRESS MAIL "POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE"  
ON THE ABOVE DATE IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450,  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313-1450.

MAILED BY Lori SchepisiDATE January 21, 2005